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Title : Need to clear the huge deposit of silt in Farrakka Barrage.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): The Farrakka Barrage Project is considered as one of the temples of Modern India which was commissioned in the year 1975. It was intended to regulate the flow of waters of river Bhagirathi in order to maintain the navigability and to supply the adequate water to keep Kolkata Port alive.

But now the glory of Farrakka Barrage Project has started fading. When it was commissioned the depth of water right at the project was 75 feet which now got reduced to miserable 14 ft if not less. The reason for reduction of depth is huge siltation that has been depositing since its commissioning. As a consequence of which half of the lock-gates of Farrakka Barrage Project have been rendered in-operational. I am afraid that if the siltation continues to be allowed it may cause major disaster.

Hence, my submission to the Union Government is to initiate desiltation programme as early as possible to restore its depth.